sacred cause, which is as much ours as that of Great Britain and her Allies.

The development of events on the Continent of Europe establishes, more than ever, the necessity for concerted efforts to resist "the tide of evil" that is "menacing the permanence of civilisation." And unfortunately for us, with the outbreak of hostilities between Germany and Russia, our country has been brought distinctly the nearer to the terrible havoc and devastation that runs riot in Europe. As has been pointed out, in Europe nation after nation has been caught napping by the subtle and sinister lightning strokes of Nazi strategy. Should not India profit by the lessons of European disunity and vacillation? Or will she, too, ignore, till too late, the eternal and inescapable truth of that well-tried proverb, "United we stand, divided we fall"? Field Marshal Lord Birdwood, in a message to the Indian Press the other day, wisely observed that this was no time for India to steer a middle course. "India, if she is to survive with her great cultural institutions intact, must choose at this moment," he said, "whether she will avail herself of the lessons so clearly and tragically demonstrated by the results of shortsightedness and petty political dissensions in Europe; or whether, neglecting these lessons and the urgent warning of Iraq, she, too, will fritter away her chances of survival and resign herself to a new era of suffering and servitude." It is a matter for sincere satisfaction, however, that Indian leaders, on the whole, have fully realised the perils now confronting the religious, social and economic lives of the people of India and are contributing in every way they can towards the speedy victory of the allied arms. Indian troops in North Africa, Syria and other places have already distinguished themselves by the great courage and enthusiasm they have displayed in upholding the banner of freedom and liberty, and it is up to us now to give of our very best, freely and ungrudgingly, in the service of the same sacred cause.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NAMES OF THE PANEL OF CHAIRMEN

Mr. President: I have to announce that. Mr. M. K. Devassy and Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty will constitute the Panel of Chairmen for this Session.

PLACING OF STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE AUTHORISED BY GOVERNMENT

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* Under Rule 58 of the Legislative Council Rules, I beg

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